(a) whether Government have formulated a pension scheme for marine fishermen;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating whether the scheme would be contributory; annd

(c) if so, by when the scheme will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closing of Film makinng Unit of Agriculture Ministry

1094. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to close the Film making Unit of the Ministry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is getting the agriculture based films through private film makers spending eight times more than the films made by its Unit; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for closing down the Film Unit and to incur more expenditure in production of films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A panel or private film makers has been framed for getting the agriculture based films produced through private film makers. It is not true that the cost of production of instructional, agricultural film through private film makers is eight times more than the films made by the Film Unit of this Ministry, presently working under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(c) Based on the best expertise available in the market and its cost effectiveness the Govt. have taken a decision to get the films produced through private film producers.

Changes in farm policy

1095. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drastic changes in the farm policy have been under consideration of Government to match with the industrial and trade reforms as indicated by the Minister of Commerce and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission on 6th September, 1993; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the decision, if any, taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Modified draft Agriculture Policy Resolution which aims at accelerating allround development of agriculture including horticulture, livestock, fisheries and sericulture and creating a positive trade and investment climate for agriculture at par with industry, has been placed in the Parliament on 14th May, 1993.

Hike in the statutory minimum price of sugar-cane

1096. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced a hike in the statutory minimum price of sugar-cane for 1993-94 and 1994-95 seasons; if so to what extent, incidating the existing and revised prices; and

(b) whether the arrears of payments due from mills to the farmers have since